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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/526,490

03/04/2005

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EXAMINER

BITAR, NANCY

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2624

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/526,490	Applicant(s) AOKI ET AL.	
	Examiner NANCY BITAR	Art Unit 2624	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 January 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 7-14 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10 January 2008 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's response to the last Office Action, filed 10/03/2007, has been entered and made of record.
2. Applicant has added claims 7-14 .Claims 1-14 are pending.
3. Applicants arguments filed 01/8/2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
4. Applicant argues that Tanaka fails to teach or suggest" when a part of image data stored in the memory is trimmed, the controlling means is configured to control the image data reading means so as to read the image data for each column at a time from the memory."
5. In response, Tanaka teaches a character information table 103 comprises a character number column 109 for identifying the respective characters and columns 110 to 113 for storing the data Xi, Yi and Wi and Hi and a degenerate code column 114. Therefore, the part of the image data that is trimmed is taught by Tanaka as the character trimming 102 that projects the image data stored in the image memory 101 to trim an area of each character and the controlling means that control the image data reading means so as to read the image data for each column at a time from the memory is taught in Tanaka as the image reader 100 see figure 16 and the control unit. Moreover , Tanaka teaches in column 3 lines 55-68 that the character information table 103 comprises a character number for identifying the respective character column 110 to 113 for storing the data Xi, Yi, Wi and Hi) therefore each column is read by the image reader of Tanaka. Applicant argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies" how the image data in the image

memory is read” are not recited in the rejected claims. Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993). Finally, Applicant argument that the office action confuses the term in the claims as the data in the image memory 101 and then refers to image data as the character heuristics in the information table. It is true that Tanaka discloses the image data in two different parts since each item area and the corresponding main body page describing the content of the item area are recognized from a page image of the table of contents or index in a document, and the recognized data are stored in a table therefore the image data that are read are stored in a memory so the converted data are the same as the original data but has different codes (see figures 4A and 4B). All remaining arguments are reliant on the aforementioned and addressed arguments and thus are considered to be wholly addressed herein.

6. Newly submitted claims 7-14 are directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed for the following reasons:
7. However, claims 7-14 discloses different embodiment of the invention where they teaches a memory module and a processor that issues a controller command to retrieve the trim image and the controller is configures to command the corresponding data reader to read only the trimmed image.
8. Since applicant has received an action on the merits for the originally presented invention, this invention has been constructively elected by original presentation for

prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, claims 7-14 are withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. See 37 CFR 1.142(b) and MPEP § 821.03

Examiner Notes

9. Examiner cites particular columns and line numbers in the references as applied to the claims below for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings in the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested that, in preparing responses, the applicant fully consider the references in entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the examiner

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

10. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

11. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by Tanaka et al (4,907,283).

As to claim 1, Tanaka et al. teaches an image processing apparatus for trimming out a part of image data stored in a memory and transferring the trimming image data, the image processing apparatus comprising:

Image data reading means for reading image data from a memory (image memory 101 for storing image data read by the image input unit 100, note that the image input unit 100 is started to read a sentence image and converts the image into binary data. The binary data is stored in the image memory 101); and controlling means for controlling the image data reading means that reads the image data from the memory(image memory 101), wherein when a part of image data stored in the memory is trimmed (The character trimming unit 102 projects the image data stored in the image memory 101 to trim an area of each character), the controlling means is configured to control the image data reading means so as to read the image data for each column at a time from the memory (character information table 103 comprises a character number column 109 for identifying the respective characters, columns 110 to 113 for storing the data Xi, Yi, Wi, and Hi, and a degenerate code column 114; column 3, lines 60-68, note that a numeric value "-1" is written in each of the end columns 110 to 113 to indicate the end of data) .

As to claim 2, Tanaka et al teaches the image processing apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the controlling means is configured to supply address information that represents an address from which image data are read for one column (In step S602, the degenerate code table 107 is accessed using the character codes (address data) of the standard character code train stored in the key buffer 650 to read out the corresponding degenerate code. The readout degenerate code is stored in the degenerate code buffer 651. The degenerate code table 107 is prepared by classification according to a method of generating a degenerate code corresponding

to each standard character code, column 5, lines 17-39) and read width information that represents the horizontal size of one column and cause the data reading means to start reading the image data from the memory so as to control the image data reading means (figure 2, 3, note that the size of the rectangular area can be extracted by comparison between the headline characters. A rectangular area including all adjacent characters in the headline characters is used as a headline area, figure 30).

As to claims 3 and 4, Tanaka et al teaches the image processing apparatus as set forth in claim 1, further comprising: a plurality of image data reading means connected to different buses, wherein the controlling means is configured to control each of the plurality of image data reading means (The control unit 5102 comprises a RAM 5103, a ROM 5104 for storing programs, and a CPU 5105 (bus), figure 16)

As to claim 5, Tanaka et al teaches an image processing method for trimming out a part of image data stored in a memory and transferring the trimming image data, the image processing method comprising the step of: when a part of image data stored in the memory is Trimmed (figure 2 is view showing the trimming), reading the image data for each column at a time from the memory (a recognition unit for recognizing information representing each image information in the area trimmed by the trimming unit for trimming the area of EACH character, column 3, lines 30-49).

As to claim 6, Tanaka et al teaches the image processing method as set forth in claim 5, wherein image data for one column are designated by an address from which the image data are read (In step S602, the degenerate code table 107 is accessed using the character codes (address data) of the standard character code train stored in the key buffer 650 to read out the

corresponding degenerate code. The readout degenerate code is stored in the degenerate code buffer 651. The degenerate code table 107 is prepared by classification according to a method of generating a degenerate code corresponding to each standard character code, column 5, lines 17-39) and read width information that represents the horizontal size of one column (figures 2 and 3, Wi and Hi).

Conclusion

12. THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to NANCY BITAR whose telephone number is (571)270-1041. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri (7:30a.m. to 5:00pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bhavesh Mehta can be reached on 571-272-7453. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Andrew W. Johns/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2624

Nancy Bitar

04/20/2008